

Intimations.

DAKIN BROS. OF CHINA,
LIMITED.

CHEMISTS

AERATED WATER
MANUFACTURERS.DAKIN'S
LEMON
SQUASH.THE FAVORITE
HOT WEATHER DRINK.

Nos. 22 & 24, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.
WINES AND SPIRITS.We invite attention to the following Brands,
all of which are excellent quality and
good value for the money.The same being specially selected by our
London House, and brought direct from the most
noted Shippers, are imported in wood and bottled
by ourselves, thus enabling us to supply the best
growths at moderate prices.In ordering, it is only necessary to state the
name and quantity of Wine or Spirit wanted,
and initial letter for quality desired.

PORTS. (For Invalids and general use).

	Per doz.	Per Bot.
A. Alto Douro, good quality,		
Green Capsule.....	\$10	\$1.50
B. Vintage, superior quality,		
Red Capsule.....	12	1.10
C. Fine Old Vintage, superior		
quality, Black Seal Cap-		
sule.....	14	1.25
D. Very Fine Old Vintage, extra		
superior, Violet Capsule		
(Old Bottled).....	18	1.50

SHERRIES.

A. Delicate Pale Dry, dinner		
wine, Green Capsule.....	6	0.50
B. Superior Pale Dry, dinner		
wine, Green Seal Capsule	7.50	0.75
C. Manzanilla, Pale Natural		
Sherry, White Capsule.....	10	1.00
D. Superior Old Dry Pale		
Natural Sherry, Red Seal		
Capsule.....	10	1.10
E. Very Superior Old Pale Dry,		
choice old Wine, White		
Seal Capsule.....	12	1.10
F. Extra Superior Old Pale Dry,		
very finest quality, Black		
Seal Capsule (Old Bot-		
tlid).....	14	1.25

CLARETS.

A. Superior Breakfast Claret,		
Red Capsule.....	4	\$4.50
B. St. Etienne, Red Capsule.....	4.50	5.00
C. St. Julien, Red Capsule.....	7	7.50
D. La Rose, Red Capsule.....	7	12.00

MADEIRA, HOCK AND CHAMPAGNES.
FULL PARTICULARS OF THE VARIOUS BRANDS
IN STOCK ON APPLICATION.

Per doz. Per Bot.

A. Hennessy's Old Pale, Red		
Capsule.....	\$13	\$1.20
B. Superior Very Old Cognac,		
Red Capsule.....	15	1.40
C. Very Old Liqueur Cognac,		
Red Capsule.....	20	1.75
D. Hennessy's Finest Very Old		
Liqueur Cognac, 1873		
Vintage, Red Capsule.....	30	2.50

SCOTCH WHISKY.

A. Thorne's Blend, White Cap-		
sule.....	8	0.75
B. Watson's Glenorchy, Mellow		
Blend, Blue Capsule.....	8	0.75
C. Watson's Abouln-Glenlivet,		
Red Capsule, with Name		
and Trade Mark.....	8	0.75
D. Watson's H. & D. Blend of		
the Finest Scotch Malt		
Whiskies, Violet Capsule		
.....	10	1.00
E. Watson's Very Old Liqueur		
Scotch Whisky, Gold		
Capsule.....	12	1.10

IRISH WHISKY.

A. John Jameson's Old, Green		
Capsule.....	8	0.75
B. John Jameson's Fine Old,		
Green Capsule.....	10	1.00
C. John Jameson's Very Fine		
Old, Green Capsule.....	12	1.10
D. Genuine Bourbon Whisky, 50		
old, Red Capsule, with		
Name and Trade Mark.....	10	1.00

GIN.

A. Fine Old Tom, White Cap-		
sule.....	4.50	0.40
B. Fine Unsweetened, White		
Capsule.....	4.50	0.40
C. Fine A. V. H. Geneva.....	5.25	0.50

RUM.

Finest Old Jamaica, Violet		
Capsule.....	12	1.00
Good Lecard Island.....	\$1.50	per Gallon.

LIQUEURS.

Benedictine Maraschino		
Curaçao Heering's Cherry Cordial		
Chateau d'Angostura		
Bitters, &c.		

PRICES ON APPLICATION.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.
Hongkong, 4th February, 1892.

DEATH.

At her Residence, No. 27, Colne Road, on the
18th inst., VIRGINIA ANNA ROSE DO ROZARIO,
widow of the late M. C. do Rozario, aged 60.
The funeral will take place to-morrow, at 4.30
p.m.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 1892.

POST OFFICE BUNGLER.

A noteworthy item in the recently
published report of the local Post-master,
Mr. A. K. TRAVERS, now, absent on
(excuse the pun) a well-earned holiday,
para. 14, which reads as follows:"The attention of the Government having been
drawn to the fact that numbers of letters were
conveyed to Macao by the Hongkong, Canton
and Macao Steamboat Company's steamers free
of charge, it was decided to enforce the law.
The result of this has been a trifling addition to
the local revenue."

"A trifling addition to the local revenue."

"The attention of the local Government
having been called," etc., etc. Now, on a
practical basis, what does all this blatant
balderdash mean? Mr. TRAVERS' report,
in its entirety, is only what might have
been expected from such a source; in
some passages, of which that quoted above
is a fair specimen, the well-meaning but
notoriously thick-headed Post-master writes
himself down very plainly an ass of the
first magnitude. "The attention of the
Government having been drawn," The
Hongkong Government for probably more
than twenty years has been perfectly well
aware that late letters were conveyed by
the vessels of the Hongkong, Canton and
Macao Steamboat Co., and other steamers,
on the routes to both Macao and Canton, free of charge;
such letters were not sent in this way to
save postage, but because the privilege
was a great convenience to business men;
the steamers took the correspondence and
the Company's agents at Macao and
Canton had the letters, newspapers, etc.,
distributed with all despatch, out of pure
courtesy and with a desire, which is as
easily understood as it is deserving of
commendation, of obliging their supporters
and of accommodating the public. And so
far as Canton is concerned, this sensible
and most convenient system still obtains.
But in Macao and in Hongkong it is quite
different—thanks to "the attention of the
Government having been drawn," etc.Who caused this change in our commercial
and social communications with Macao,
in face of the well-known fact that the
system worked splendidly and gave
satisfaction to everybody concerned? It
was the "new broom," the newly
appointed Postmaster, who imagined he
was doing something wonderful, and
awoke to find he had, to use a
metaphor from the river boats, "struck
a snag." We never knew, were
never able to guess why Mr. TRAVERS
was placed in charge of the local
Post Office. He was not a regular
member of the Civil Service—that is to
say he passed no examination at home or
elsewhere, had no claim whatever on the
Colonial Office, was "jobbed" in the most
barefaced manner into a billet in the
Colonial Secretary's office by his uncle,
Sir ARTHUR KENNEDY, was dismissed for
incompetency as private secretary by
Governor POPE HENNESSY—he was a
legacy left to HENNESSY by Uncle
Arthur, which his Excellency failed
to appreciate and publicly said so—
was reported to have been rejected as
Deputy Superintendent of Police when Mr.
C. V. CARRAGH left the colony; and he had
no experience in postal affairs until made
assistant to the late Mr. ALFRED LUTER,
an able but eccentric man who had
mistaken his vocation. And Mr. TRAVERS
celebrated his being "jobbed" into the
Postmastership by discovering what
everybody had known from time
immemorial, that a very convenient method
of conducting correspondence with Macao
existed without troubling the post-offices
of either colony. So the law was partially
enforced—the omniscient Postmaster had
to very quickly take back his veto on
newspapers, which are now conveyed as
in days of old—incalculable inconvenience
has been caused both here and
in Macao, and we are now informed
that the result of the new broom's
attempt to make a big hit is "a trifling
addition to the local revenue." Will the
Hon. Mr. WHITEHEAD, or any other of the
Unofficials, kindly question the Govern-
ment as to the exact amount of this
"trifling addition to the local revenue,"
so that the mercantile community may
be able to appraise the respective
values of what they have lost and
what the Government has gained? "We
have had too much legislation," said
Governor Sir W. ROBINSON in Council the
other week, and the remark was to the
point and only too true. But the serious
trouble is that the great majority of this
legislation has been of the grandmotherly
persuasion, of which this Macao postal
fiasco is a very fair specimen. In order
to give the Hongkong Government a
convincing instance of the general in-
convenience caused by the Post-master's
childish and one-sided attempt at postal
reform, we have only to refer to yesterday's
experiences. The letters from Macao per
Hengshan were handed in at Pedder's
Hall at 12.40, and the mails for the Holy
City by the same steamer closed at 12.30,
or ten minutes before the correspondence
had been circulated in even the lower
levels of the city. Under the old regime
all correspondence would have been
delivered within half an hour after the
steamer's arrival—the Hengshan was
alongside the wharf shortly after 11 a.m.,
which even with the steamer starting on
the return journey at 1 o'clock, one hour before
the usual time, would have allowed
sufficient time for replies to be written
and taken on board before the vessel's
departure. But imagine the inconvenience
of not receiving your mails until after the
Post-office had closed, and you were
legally prevented from sending a letter to
Macao, no matter how pressing its urgency,
even in a matter of life and death. And
yet we boast of Hongkong as a free port
and a monument of British enlightenment!Dah! official red-tape laughs at common-
sense, and is invariably supported by the
immortal "phantom," with its "large
administrative experience," irrespective
of the real question at issue. But these
Macao postal restrictions are not only a
grave inconvenience to local commercial
interests—they are actually a standing
absurdity, supported only by inconsistency,
ignorance, and sheer obstinacy. If
letters must be transmitted only through
this alleged Post Office, why not
newspapers, parcels, etc.? Why shouldone class of mislaid be exempted and
the other forcibly detained? Why should
what by the test of time and experience
has been proved to be a public boon and
convenience, be interfered with and
swamped by the short-sighted officiousness
of an official with only sufficient brains to
prevent his getting on his hind-legs and
acting the goat, and who only played for
glorification of self? This question requires
no Commission to elucidate the facts; let
his Excellency the Governor inquire of
any of our business houses, or let him have
urgent need for communication with
Macao, and he will quickly be satisfied
that "the trifling addition to the local
revenue" derived from letters posted to
Macao, is at the expense of the trading
community, and that it is eaten up twice
over by the demands on the time and
attention of the Post-office officials, which
might be very much better employed in
other directions.

DIRECTORS' DECEPTIONS.

At the annual general meeting of share-
holders in the Hongkong and Shanghai
Banking Corporation, Limited, on Feb.
27th last, the Chairman, Mr. J. S. MOSES,
said in the course of his review of the
year's working:—"With regard to the
case in Manila, I am very glad to inform
the shareholders that yesterday evening
we received a telegram stating that the
first embargo has been removed by the
Audencia, and the sum of \$328,000, the
full amount, returned to the Bank. It is
probable that the release of the second
embargo will soon follow. We are
greatly indebted to the Banco Espanol
Filipino and to the Spanish authorities for
the assistance they have rendered to the
Bank in the matter." These remarks
were greeted with enthusiastic applause,
which drowned the speaker's voice at the
end of every sentence—an unusually
cordial display in Hongkong. Evidently
the shareholders considered this to be
very good news; and evidently, too,
the Chairman wished that they should so
consider it. Poor fools! They were
shamefully deluded, and the Chairman
(or the sender of the telegram) was
guilty of deliberate deception, of know-
ingly and falsely creating a sense of security
and prosperity which he knew would not
exist if he had told the whole truth. If
there is any credence at all to be placed
in the statements of Mr. J. S. MOSES,
Mr. MOSES strayed far from the truth.In another part of this issue we
reproduce a letter which has already
been printed and widely circulated in
London, and has not yet, as far as
we know, been challenged by the
Court of Directors. If our interpretation
of it be correct, it gives the lie direct to
the Chairman, or rather to the telegram
which he said had been received, and to
his deductions therefrom. Whether any
such telegram was received or not, the
fact remains that there was absolutely no
new feature about the Manila business
that could rightly be cause for con-
gratulation; on the contrary, there was,
though possibly Mr. MOSES did not know
it, serious cause for lamentation; so that
when the Chairman said "I am very
glad" etc., and stood smiling in
acknowledgment of the repeated applause
which greeted his statements, he was, by
implication at any rate, very seriously
deceiving the shareholders. If he did so
ignorantly, then it is for the poor deluded
and often defrauded shareholders to
decide whether he is fit to be a director
any more; but if he knew the truth, and yet
represented what was so far from it, then
Mr. MOSES is at the very least a deliberate
liar.The letter which thus rudely dashes
down the shareholders' hopes of favourable
settlement of the Jukado dispute is, briefly,
to the effect that although there was a
formal release of the first embargo, truly
enough, yet it was simply a variation in
the procedure, as the Bank was compelled,
in place of actually having the cash
held, under seizure by the Court, to
find good security for the full amount;
so that there was no real release of the
Bank from its incubus. Further, the
letter states that the decision of the
Court after that was against the Bank,
which thus suffered very heavily indeed.
Mr. MOSES has not, we believe, told
the shareholders this. Possibly he thought
it was not sufficiently important; or he
may have modestly shrunk from further
applause. Incidentally, the letter of
Señor JURADO accuses those responsible for
bringing and maintaining this case of
gross fraud, bribery, duplicity, and
criminality in several directions; and all
through, the publication is a very direct
challenge to the Directors. Even so those
not holding shares in the Hongkong and
Shanghai Bank, the letter is well worth
reading and should call forth from the
Directors a most decided response.

TELEGRAMS.

A GOLD STANDARD FOR THE AUSTRO-
HUNGARIAN EMPIRE.LONDON, May 16th.
Bills have been introduced into the Parlia-
ment of Austria and Hungary creating a gold
standard for the Empire.The Austrian Minister of Finance, referring
to the Monetary Conference, stated that Austria
would oppose free coinage.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE P. & O. S. N. CO.'s steamer *Venetia* left
Shimoda for this port at 11 a.m. today.

Taxi cabs arrived at the wharf at 11 a.m. today.

The *Empress of India* arrived at the wharf at 11 a.m. today.The *Empress of India* arrived at the wharf at 11 a.m. today.On leaving Yokohama for Vancouver yesterday
morning the *Empress of India* had on board
150 saloon passengers.AN Emergency Convocation of Victoria Chapter,
No. 535, will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zealand
Street, on Tuesday, the 24th instant, at 8.30 for
9 p.m. precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially
invited.In our report of the naval court-martial on
the 16th inst., a serious error occurred in the
sentence, which was that of dismissal from the
ship, and not from the service. The name of
the first lieutenant of the *Porpoise*, who laid the
charge, is Mr. C. H. Morgans.A CORRESPONDENT informs us that a great
billiard tournament at the Naval Yard the all-
absorbing topic for the last two or three weeks
away down Queen's Road East, will (O. V.)
be concluded this evening, when the "Rajah"
will be present and distribute the prizes.A PROMINENT Chinaman named Khoo Tsiang
Poh was lately buried at Penang, the funeral
expenses alone amounting about the sum of
\$30,000. The covering of the coffin, which was
made in Shanghai, is said to be the richest and
grandest ever seen in Penang, as it cost \$3,000.AMONG the letters advertised by the Post Office
as undeliverable and lying by to be called for
are three addressed to persons in Hongkong,
who have not changed their addresses for several
months; and one in respect of which, to our
certain knowledge, directions were left with the
Post Office authorities some time ago.THE Band of the 1st Shropshire Regt. will play
the following programme at the Officers' Mess
this evening, commencing at 8 p.m.:—Overture, "Pique Dame".....Suppe.
Selection, "Song of Northern Europe".....Kühn.
Selection, "The Merry Widow".....Strauss.
Selection, "Ray Blue".....Meyer-Lutz.
Pavane.....Gottschalk.CHAN SECK, arrested by Inspector Stanton yester-
day by virtue of a warrant issued at the instance
of the Victoria Court, who had offered \$2,000
reward for his apprehension, was brought before
Mr. Woodcock this morning and charged with
committing burglary, murder and piracy in
Chinese territory. Formal evidence of the arrest
was given and the prisoner was remanded for
one week.THE Governor of Formosa, Shao Yung-ling,
formerly Taitai of Shanghai, has memorialised
the Emperor for the dismissal of the present
Incumbents of the Sulphur Bureau, which is one
of the most important and lucrative departments
on the island. The reason for the Governor's
memorial is the barefaced system by which the
mandarins in charge of the bureau defraud the
revenue. One thousand piculs of sulphur had
on one occasion, recently, been surreptitiously
exported and five hundred on another.THE following are the Hankow Tea Statistics
at date compared with the corresponding number
of days from the opening of last season, viz.,
4 days; 9th May, 1892:

	1891.	1892.
Hankow Tea.		
Sulphur to Shanghai	1,847 1/2 Chests	7,611 1/2 Chests
Shipments to Shanghai	1,847 1/2 Chests	7,611 1/2 Chests
Stock	1,847 1/2 Chests	7,611 1/2 Chests
Arrivals	1,847 1/2 Chests	7,611 1/2 Chests
Shipments to Shanghai	1,847 1/2 Chests	7,611 1/2 Chests
Stock	1,847 1/2 Chests	7,611 1/2 Chests
Arrivals	1,847 1/2 Chests	7,611 1/2 Chests

IMMEDIATELY ON ARRIVAL AT SINGAPORE ON THE

10th inst. the French mail steamer *Saphir* was
met at the wharf by the police, who were in
search of an absconding embezzler expected to
arrive by that boat. It was known that a man,
by name Rudolf Jaeger, who was formerly in the
employ of the Rothschild family at Frankfurt,
had, together with his paramour, said to be an
actress, taken out a passage by the mail, and
the authorities in Europe telegraphed out for
him to be intercepted. So far, however, Jaeger,
who is wanted on a charge of embezzling
2,000,000 marks, about \$700,000, has succeeded
in eluding capture, and no sign of the delinquent
was to be found on board the *Saphir*, though
it is stated that two persons answering to the
descriptions given were landed at Seck.MR. HARBOUR MASTER Rumsey fairly extended
himself at Monday's Council meeting in the
debate on the *Merchant Shipping Consolidation
Ordinance*, and he made a gallant attempt to
exercise his pretty wit at the expense of the
Chamber of Commerce. In combating Mr.
Whitehead's proposal that the phrase "steeply
magistrate" should include the Police
Magistrate, Mr. Rumsey said that the Police
Magistrate was not a magistrate, and that the
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New that \$620,000 (in silver) have been actually embargoed and kept idle and about execution of a further embargo up to about \$1,000,000, the Bankers' Strong Room at Manila, which the Hongkong Bank has officially stated to the Government contained \$3,000,000 (Three million dollars) in silver dollars and securities, had been closed and sealed up by the Court, nearly 10 months since and still remains so, it is right that the Shareholders of the Bank should consider whether the extravagant and large sum to be taken from them, for the purpose of keeping the litigation alive, and jeopardizing their credit and business, is worth the expenditure.

We have already noted that the said two embargoes have taken place after the Bank followed the advice of their clever Lawyer, Mr. Goddard.

The conduct of the said Mr. Goddard does not astonish anyone acquainted with him. He has already been publicly accused, and justly so, of secretly acting for both parties in an action connected with this very same litigation. It is hardly needful to say that the enlightened self interest displayed in the honorable advice given by him, is of importance to notice that the Attorney-General for England, Sir Richard Webster, Q.C., M.P., the Solicitor-General, Sir Edward Clarke, Q.C., M.P., and Mr. Emmanuel M. Underwood, Q.C., have advised, and are of opinion, that the Directors should "abstain" by opening their eyes to the fact that the Court is likely to take the case, in adopting the course advised by Mr. Goddard, be endeavoring to avoid their personal liability for losses, which the Shareholders might object to bear.

Perhaps the present Directors are unaware of these ominous circumstances; and it will be only just, on their part, to ascertain the truth of all these statements, which Messrs. Jando & Co. are willing and prepared to substantiate, either to the said Directors, or to an independent Committee of Shareholders, appointed for such a purpose. Anyhow, it will show and prove both their honesty and sincerity, by endeavoring to ascertain by whom, and for what purpose, the false statements lately published by the press, were invented and circulated, and if there is any connection between their publication and the heavy fluctuations of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation's Shares.

And this duty is so imperative, that the "Standard" in its issue of the 29th ult., already throws some light on the manner in which news connected with the Bank is circulated in London. The remarks, which are also well worthy of the consideration of the Shareholders, are as follows:—

"It seems that the officials have received a telegram from Hongkong this morning, informing them that the Company's Office here had disappeared, taking \$300,000 of the Bank's cash with him. All last week the Shares were being thrown on the London market from China, so that it would seem 'some people knew in Hongkong a week ago' 'either that this Chinaman had disappeared, or was about to do so.'"

From the foregoing you will be able to arrive at the exact state of the case; and as you may have interest in connection with either the Bank or Messrs. Jando and Co., we have thought it our duty to lay the true position of the litigation before you.

We are, Gentlemen,
Your humble servants,
J. J. J. J.

P.S.—We may mention that the information contained herein has been already published in various newspapers of Madrid, without being refuted or contradicted.

SHANGHAI SPRING RACE MEETING.

Stewards:—A. McLeod, Esq.; R. E. Bredon, Esq.; B. A. Clarke, Esq.; J. G. Schoffeleers, Esq.; Herbert Smith, Esq.; H. J. H. Tapp, Esq.; C. Beermann, Esq.; Clerk of the Course:—E. H. Gore-Booth, Esq. Secretary:—Barnes Dallas, Esq.

"OFF DAY"—SATURDAY, MAY 7TH, 1892.

The weather was splendid, the attendance of spectators unusually large, and the racing excellent.

Details:—

THE SUBSCRIPTION STAKES; for all subscription ponies that have run at this meeting and not won a race—1st pony, 1 lb. 50, and 2nd pony 1 lb. 15, 3rd pony 1 lb. 7; no entrance fee; weight for inches as per scale. Half-a-mile.

Mr. Common's ch. Hat, 1st. 12 lb. 10.

Mr. Dallas's ch. Chippewa, 12 lb. 10.

Mr. Newboy's gr. Chippewa, 12 lb. 10.

Mr. Newboy's gr. Renegade, 10 lb. 12.

Mr. Renny's ch. Pock, 11 lb. 11.

Mr. Decima's ch. Pock, 11 lb. 11.

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Mr. Decima's ch. Pock, 11 lb. 11.

Mr. Ring's gr. St. Galmier, 11 lb. 11. Toozoo
Mr. Suan's gr. Atomer, 11 lb. 11. Toozoo
Mr. O. Oswald's gr. Ardant, 11 lb. 11. Toozoo

The favorite made all the running and won by three lengths. Time, 2m. 37 1/2 sec.

THE "SANS-SOUCI" STAKES; value, 100; presented for all Ponies that have run at this meeting and not won a race; weight for inches as per scale; winners on the fourth day excluded; entrance, \$5, to go to the second pony. One Mile.

Mr. Falk's gr. Boreas, 11 lb. 11. Mr. Read
Mr. Mantou's gr. Bumpious, 11 lb. 11. Mr. Dallas

Mr. Jossier's gr. Guarantee, 11 lb. 11. Mr. Souter
Mr. Troy's gr. Golden Chance, 11 lb. 11. Mr. Dallas

Mr. Waverley's ch. Annandale, 11 lb. 11. Mr. Dallas

Mr. H. Sylva's ch. Teutonic, 11 lb. 11. Mr. Dallas

Mr. Crawford's ch. Exchange, 10 lb. 13 lb. Mr. Dallas

Boreas had a slight lead along the back straight, and won a good race by a length from the favorite. Time 2m. 38.

THE "CHRISTIAN" STAKES; for all China ponies, without regard to ownership; winners of a Steeplechase or Paper Hunt excluded; native riders in racing colours; catch weight, entrance, \$5; first rider, 1/8th; second, 3/8th; third, 1/2th. Once Round.

Mr. Berger's ch. Exchange, 10 lb. 13 lb. Mr. Dallas

Mr. Dugan's gr. Orange Sloop, 10 lb. 13 lb. Mr. Dallas

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We have lately had such a number of people arriving for the gold fields near Kelung, that at present there are four trains a day and a goods train at night between Taipei and Kelung to accommodate the traffic. Every train towards Kelung has been thronged as a rule and nearly empty on the return trip. The men are mostly from Amoy and Swatow, and there must be many thousands, all paying for permission to work.

It is a curious fact that I do not hear anyone here complain over the unnatural exchange which rules the world at present; nearly every one here lives on export and the very gold diggings pay better at present.

Some time ago I saw a tele containing a statement that the camphor trees are being entirely ruined in Formosa. This is not quite the case.

A short time ago I particularly looked into this and am glad to be able to state that I found many young trees near the camphor stations, left entirely in peace. I do not believe that any camphor tree is used before it is more than three feet in diameter at least.

On the other hand it is a curious fact that the stumps and roots of trees, which have been used long ago for the making of the planks, are now found and yield as much camphor as the freshly cut trees.

Even up in the camphor districts coal abounds, and the inhabitants there only scrape a few inches of ground away, and can then in many places take what coal they like to use. The ten fields as well as the rice fields look extremely well everywhere and the usual lot of passengers are arriving for the tea-season by every steamer from Amoy. The war with the natives seems to have nearly died out now, at least we hear very little about it.

Nothing else worth noting to-day.—N. C. Daily News.

SOOCHOW

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

9th May, 1892.

A recent case of murder in the south end of this city brings out clearly several features of Chinese civilisation. A literary man, who had in Government employ acquired wealth, filled his house with women, and after some years died leaving a house full of wives and children.

It was not a happy family. About ten days ago a servant girl twelve or fourteen years of age was murdered by some member of this household.

There is no evidence at my command to show who did the deed or why it was done, but it is plain that there was foul play, for an attempt was made to get rid of the corpse. It was taken to the house of a neighbour and laid down by the hearer either within or in front of the door, with the remark, "Here is a bundle that I wish to leave with you."

On examination, the bundle was found to contain the body of the murdered girl. As to the question of marks of violence, the public opinion is divided. The event created great excitement. Thousands of people went to see the place where the tragic scene occurred.

A great deal is said about it, but it is hard to get reliable information with regard to many points. The district magistrate had an inquest. He found anything that demanded official interference and showed any disposition to punish the guilty, he is greatly misunderstood.

The impression prevails that his course was to allow the wealthy murderer to satisfy the relatives of the victim by providing an expensive funeral and making a present of money. According to accounts, an aunt of the deceased called at one time a dead-end in the funeral proceedings by getting into the open coffin and declaring her purpose to stay there until her demands were complied with.

The Viceroy has reached Soochow and will hold a grand review of the troops as soon as the weather permits.—N. C. Daily News.

WESTERN SHANTUNG.

29th April 1892.

After weeks of sickening dust storms, a most remarkable event has occurred in a wide-spread rain on the 29th instant, which even the most insatiable farmers admit to be more than adequate for the needs of the earth. It was a gentle and unintermittent fall, penetrating to the remotest parts of the cultivated soil, such a rain in fact, as we look for in April under Occidental skies.

But the extreme rarity of the occurrence in Northern China is shown by the fact that even the old men cannot recall when there was a rainfall like this.

The Governor of the province has been to Peking, and those who have selected this juncture to make a tour by water, are by this time painfully aware of the fact. Great numbers of minor officials are bound to go to the river to meet him, three days' journey from the capital, and every boat fit for service is pressed. This state of things has continued for many days, and although there is a knowledge of the water in the province, it is a curious state of affairs.

A vicious act of theatricals in his honour has been in full blast for three days, and the whole transportation system of this part of the province is upset. Yet it is just eight years since it was authoritatively announced that an Imperial decree had been issued authorising the construction of a railway from Tientsin to Shanghai, an event now apparently much further distant than it was then.

Many boats are now in the water, and the Grand Canal is very busy. Many boats have had to unload into small "house-boats," which tend to make the price of boats almost out of the question, the price asked rising to such figures that it might easily be mistaken for purchase money.—N. C. Daily News.

ICHANG.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

May 9th.

The river, between half a mile and one hour's journey, and on Sunday night two inches of rain fell. But since then the weather has become splendid—brilliant sun and fresh air. The rice and grain crops look beautiful, but what may have happened to the tea crop further down one wonders. Possibly on leaf will repay the trouble of gathering but that picked on 23rd April, a glorious day finishing in a downpour down river, although it rained all day, and for a fortnight past. But this place is outside the tea region, although the guppy poppy is a new introduction, and looks very pretty, watched over by half a dozen luxuriant gardens who spring forward on the least attempt to examine into its character.

The faded junk look like so many poppies on a large scale, Butterfield and Swift's particularly prominent, and well shown off by the red characters and dark blue of the Customs flag underneath. They lie in squadrons like a regular fleet, and are said each to be more trouble than an ordinary steamer. Most of the Ichang residents are still living in boats, in which there would be small hardship, if the thermometer had not such an invincible inclination to fall below 70° yesterday, while people were still keeping up fires on shore. Yet every one looks for a house, especially those who have already spent many years in building. Means while there is no talk of compensation further than a rumour of Chinese intentions to beat down the English claims, as they have already beaten down the French, and a firmly expressed determination on the part of Englishmen not to accept

one cash less than the sum at which they have valued the goods destroyed, or carried into mandarin's yamens, in September last.

General Sir John Lubbock for Peking; some say he has been promoted to be promoted. It is any way remarkable that his brother, who was here during the so-called riot (7) of the soldiers, has already been promoted to be chief military mandarin at Kweichow. The soldiers whose insolence and threats were the cause of two ladies from Shanghai returning there this last winter without ever reaching Ichang have all been punished, and the officer in charge cashiered.—N. C. Daily News.

CHINKIANG.

(FROM "N. C. DAILY NEWS" CORRESPONDENT.)

8th May, 1892.

The long expected review of the Chinkiang troops took place last Tuesday. For over a month the soldiers have been drilling both morning and afternoon, and not a little has been the amount of powder burned up. But now the "big day" is over, and the soldiers that regard as most expensive at times. The *Tu Yü Hui* will take place in a few weeks however, and then all for a few days will again be noise, bustle and possibly riot.

The Viceroy returned from north of the river early on Monday morning. Many expected the review to take place that day; but as he had numerous official visits to make, it was postponed until Tuesday. The garrisons at this point are in all about 4,500 men strong. The review was held on the open space west of the Kanienkumbili. The manoeuvring, shooting and archery were said to have reflected great credit on the troops. As to the shooting with the foreign muskets, at a distance of 100 paces not a shot missed the mark, so it said. The archery was not quite so good, as one little child, who received a stray arrow in his cheek, can bear testimony.

As soon as the review was over the Viceroy embarked for Soochow, going down the Grand Canal, his boats being towed by five steam tugs. The not all the high Chinese officials are above believing in the efficiency of Japs is shown by a proclamation recently issued by our local magistrate at the request of the Provincial commander-in-chief, Fung, of Kuangtung. It appears that this official

